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AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 MAY 2006  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
YUSUKE MITARAI, ET AL. )  
Application No.: N.Y.A. )  
(National Phase of International )  
Application No. PCT/JP2005/001289, )  
filed January 24, 2005) )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: CODING METHOD AND )  
APPARATUS, AND COMPUTER :  
PROGRAM AND COMPUTER- )  
READABLE STORAGE MEDIUM : May 23, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application  
as follows: